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## POISONING WITH CARBONIC ACID IN REMARKABLE CIRCUMSTANCES.

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On Sunday, January 4th, 1852, Mr. Wright Wilson, of Sheffield, was summoned to the house of George Hall, in Park Hill Lane, called also, from its elevated position, "Sky Edge." Mrs. Hall was extended on her right side on the chamber floor, close to the bed-side; while her husband was in an easy bent position, also on his right side, on the opposite side of the bed, his head and chest being under the bed. They were both dead, and quite cold. The woman's countenance was mild and placid; the man's bore a slightly uneasy expression. They were in their night dresses, and there was a plaster on the chest of each. With the exception of an abrasion (less than the nail of the little finger, and surrounded neither by redness nor swelling) on the crown of the man's head, no external trace of violence could, on a very careful examination, be discovered. There were slight suggillations on the man's back; but elsewhere the skin of every part of the two bodies was perfectly natural in color and appearance. The mucous membranes of their mouths and pharynges were healthy, and free from every kind of odor. The chamber was orderly, everything appearing to be in its place. There was a singular and intolerable smell in the house, strongest in the chamber. The woman had been in the habit of taking laudanum; of this drug two or three drachms were found in the house.

On Monday, January 5th, probably thirty hours after death, Mr. Wilson, by order of the coroner, examined the bodies.

There were no unnatural external appearances.

There was congestion of the membranes and sinuses of the brain. Each lateral ventricle contained about ʒ ss. of clear serum. The lungs were gorged with dark blood; the bronchial mucous membrane was slightly inflamed; and there were extensive pleuritic adhesions. The left sides of the hearts were nearly empty; the right contained a quantity of dark half-coagulated blood. The stomachs were healthy; the woman's contained about ʒ iv. of thick, gruel-like fluid. This fluid, the stomachs, duodenums, portions of the jejunums, and portions of the colons, were given, at the request of the coroner, to Mr. Haywood, professional chemist, to be analyzed.

On Tuesday, January 6th, Mr. Wilson, suspecting the drainage, again examined Hall's house, but again without finding any explanation of the catastrophe. In the adjoining yard, however, he perceived a small quantity of smoke issuing from a cesspool, filled with cinders and fæcal matter, in a state of smouldering combustion. When the burning mass was disturbed, even slightly, with a spade, it yielded dense columns of smoke, and a most disgusting smell, resembling that in the house. Knowing that the ground was loose, stony and permeable, Mr. Wilson communicated his suspicion to the coroner and Mr. Haywood, that the gaseous products of this combustion had found their way into Hall's house.

It was proved on the inquest, that, on the night of the 3d January, Mrs. Hall perceived a very disagreeable smell in her house, and that she, assisted by a neighbor, carefully searched for the cause, but found nothing. At this time the cinders in the cesspool were red hot; but it was not at all suspected that the fire in the cesspool was in any way connected with the impure state of the atmosphere in the house. A straw mattress had been burnt in the cesspool a few days previously. In this way the cinders had been set on fire; but Mr. Wilson could see no trace of the mattress.

*Mr. Haywood's Statement.*—On Wednesday, January 7th, I examined Hall's house in Park Hill Lane, one of the highest and most airy situations in Sheffield. The house stands on a heap of stones, the remains of an extensive quarry; it consists of one sitting-room, with a small pantry on the ground-floor, and a bed-room over them; it is about two feet below the level of the ground on the south-western side, on a level with the ground on the east, and somewhat above it on the north-west. In consequence of the loose nature of the ground, the south-west wall has deviated about one foot from the perpendicular, and, in order to make this wall look straight in the inside, boards, extending from the floor to the ceiling, have been placed near it, there being a space of some inches between the two. At a distance of twelve feet from this wall, and in the bed of loose stones on which the house is built, is excavated a cesspool for ashes and night-soil; this is six feet long, five feet broad, and four feet deep; its walls are lower than the surface of the loose stones, and have little or no mortar; any gases, therefore, generated within the walls of the cesspool, would easily find their way into the bed of stones, and thence through the broken foundation into Hall's house. Mr. Haywood found the cesspool nearly full of *burning* cinders, mixed with fæcal matter. The fire had not made much progress previously to the evening of the accident, when, as proved before the coroner, the contents of the cesspool were "one mass of fire." Ashes were thrown upon it in the hope of extinguishing it; but under a heavy western gale, which sprung up towards the morning of the 4th January, the contents of the cesspool again became a mass of fire. The wind, pent up in the corner where the ashpit is placed, forced the gases through the loose stones and broken foundation, into the space between the boards and wall of the lower room, thence into the space between the ceiling and bed-room floor, and thence through large holes and cracks into the bed-room itself. In consequence of the chimney and

windows being on the eastern side of the house, the strong west wind produced a partial vacuum in the bed-room, and this vacuum drew, while the wind pushed, the gases from the ashpit into the bed-room. The current of air through the bed-room floor blew out a candle; and, although the combustion had nearly ceased when the examination was made, yet the atmosphere of the room was intolerably offensive and oppressive.

By means of an aspirator, Mr. Haywood passed four cubic feet of air, as it entered by one of the openings in the floor, through a solution of acetate of lead; no discoloration being produced, it was inferred that neither sulphuretted hydrogen nor hydrosulphate of ammonia was present. Another portion was then passed through a solution of nitrate of silver, without producing anything but a brown tint, arising from a small quantity of organic matter; no cyanogen compounds were consequently present. The air in the aspirator contained 1.4 per cent. of carbonic acid gas, with a trace of sulphurous acid, pure air having only a twenty-fourth part of this quantity of carbonic acid.

It is usually believed that an atmosphere containing five per cent. of carbonic acid may prove fatal to man. The bed-room and staircase of Hall's house contain 1283 cubic feet of space. As sixty-two cubic feet of carbonic acid, enough to have poisoned Hall and his wife, are produced by the burning of little more than two pounds of cinders, it may be readily understood that more than sufficient to explain the accident, must have resulted from the burning of a heap of cinders measuring sixty or seventy cubic feet.

The communication between the burning cinder heap and the bed-room was more complete than between the former and the sitting-room, where a canary, favorably placed opposite the north-west window, was found uninjured. The space between the boards and the wall acted as a flue; and, on the night in question, the larger part of the air, which entered the bed-room, passed through the burning cinder heap. The sitting-room had an open fire place, and a window to the north-west, through which, on that boisterous night, a current of fresh air was driven. The boards were covered with paper, and the communication between the bed-room and sitting-room was cut off by a door at the bottom of the staircase. A little carbonic acid, however, was detected in the sitting-room, coming from behind a corner cupboard placed against the boards, where the paper did not extend.

Three causes prevented the descent of the carbonic acid from the bed-room to the sitting-room:—The door at the foot of the staircase; the rarefied state of the air in the bed-room produced by the west wind; and the condensed state of the air in the sitting-room produced by the wind blowing through the north-west window. If air passed from either of the rooms to the other, it would have passed from the lower to the upper; but this was probably prevented by the open chimney in the former.

A chimney-board in the bed-room was considered to have very much increased the evil; but as the chamber was part of the flue through which the poisonous gases discharged themselves, their current through

the chamber, had the chimney been open, would have been more rapid; but there was space enough between the chimney-piece and chimney-board, and through the imperfectly-fitting windows, for the passage of air; and probably the less impure air of the room passed up the chimney to give place to the poisonous products of the cinder heap.

To trace the communication between the ash-pit and the house, the loose stones, with their covering of earth, were removed to a considerable depth. Mr. Haywood found the warm air from the burning cinder heap, passing through and below the broken foundation; and finding also that the oxide of iron on the stones was converted into a sulphuret, he concluded that the hydrosulphate of ammonia had, at the commencement of the burning, been driven in that direction, although he could not detect the presence of any of this substance, or any trace of its action on the metals in the house.

There was not the slightest indication of any vegetable or mineral poison in the parts which were analyzed..

From the foregoing facts, Mr. Haywood concluded that George Hall and his wife died from inhaling carbonic acid, and other products of the combustion of the burning cinder heap above described.—*Edinburgh Monthly Journal of Medical Science.*

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## DR. ZIEGLER ON HÆMATOSIS, ITS NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL INDUCTION.

[Concluded from page 96.]

I HAVE thus, notwithstanding this article has insensibly been extended much beyond the limits originally designed, only cursorily glanced at the general features of this subject, sufficient, I trust, however, to demonstrate its practical interest, extent and importance; and in its more special elucidation will present, in conclusion, the following general observations as the results of experiment, experience and reflection, and as seemingly correct and just deductions from the facts and principles already ascertained, established and acknowledged, and those additional highly probable ones from analogy and the relations of cause and effect.

I. That in aeratosis or the aeratory processes, the atmospheric air in its influence on, and modification of, the organic fluids, of animals especially, operates in a compound and not a single chemical relation, through the medium of its two principal constituents, oxygen and nitrogen, the latter as well as the former being appropriated and essential to the perfection of hæmatosis both in its formative and degenerative relations.

II. That an analogous artificial commixture of these two elements, oxygen and nitrogen, or a similar physical association of them formed by the superaddition of a quantity of the former to a due proportion of the atmospheric air, and a chemical compound of these same elements, as they exist in the form of protoxide of nitrogen or nitrous oxide, possess similar physical, chemical and vital properties, varying only in degree, and will produce similar, though by the last more exalted, chemico-physiologic effects on the vital economy.

III. That as these two chemical elements in their natural atmospheric association, in this aeratory relation, afford the indispensable prerequisites for the inception, promotion, preservation and perfection of the normal organic and animal products, processes and purposes, and their privation is one of the causes, if not the most frequent cause, of their defection, derangement and failure, and as these elements in their special natural and artificial, physical association or chemical combination possess and exert similar chemico-physiologic properties and influences, therefore they must frequently be not only the best, but in all such cases the only essential agents for their prevention and rectification; and consequently their judicious employment for such purposes is most natural and rational, and strictly in accordance with correct reason and sound judgment.

IV.—That in consequence of their peculiar constituents, properties and influences, these compound artificial agents are thus especially applicable to, and useful in those particular asthenic or anæratosic conditions, immediately resulting from the direct privation of their elements in the natural association—known as sudden simple asphyxiation and suspended animation from suffocation, as in hanging, drowning, &c., and that of newly-born infants, cyanosis, &c., as well as that of a more gradual, passive, partial and protracted character from sedentary habits, tight dressing, inefficient ventilation, &c.

V. That through their special chemical action on the components of the blood and extraneous matters in that fluid and the general economy, their powerful stimulus to and support of the vital energies and general renovating influences, they modify or destroy various poisonous principles which may be introduced into the system, and mitigate or correct their effects, as those poisons and toxicosic conditions included in and resulting from the narcotics, malaria or miasmata, mortuary or other similar corrupting animal matters, from dissections, bites of rabid animals, serpents, &c., and those other systemic contaminations from syphilitic virus and all similar degenerate and vitiated states of the blood, nervous energies and system generally.

VI. That as in addition to other, as well as their transforming and consuming influences, they especially promote the normal assimilative and disintegrative processes, they will not only prevent, modify and remove the undue or abnormal production, deposition and accumulation of fat, albumen, sugar, lithiasic concretions, fibrinous and osseous deposits, and those other more diseased products as tuberculous matter, and probably also the more malignant complications and contaminations, but will obviate and rectify the general condition upon which these abnormal aberrations and adventitious productions depend. Especially as the prolonged partial asphyxiation or deficient and disproportionate supply of their elements and influences from the atmospheric air, preceding, inducing or accompanying and complicating the original diathesis, is in all probability the principal and primary cause of the anæmatosis and molecular modification immediately resulting in most of these derangements and morbid developments, and particularly those of the former general conditions which I have in a former publication respectively de-

nominated adiposis, albuminosis and glucosis, and also those others known as lithiasis, tuberculosis, scrofulosis, &c.

VII.—That by their more special stimulant properties and influences on the principal organs and parts of the system, they will obviate and correct functional derangement depending on deficient power or energy, as debility of the stomach and alimentary canal, bladder, generative organs, heart, &c., and those of the more purely neuroses from nervous and cerebral prostration and disturbance, as paralysis, chorea, and other forms of spasmodic or irregular action, delirium tremens, dementia, &c., and in fact all similar affections or complications of an adynamic character.

VIII. That these elements, oxygen and nitrogen, in their natural or artificial, physical or chemical association or combination, mechanically forced and condensed into, and associated with the simple liquids, as water, and thus introduced into the circulation through the alimentary canal or otherwise, produce the same effects as when administered in their combined gaseous state directly through the lungs or respiratory passages.

IX. That as experience has demonstrated that the chemical combination of these elements, as they exist in the form of protoxide of nitrogen or nitrous oxide, manifest more decidedly active and superior chemico-physiologic and therapeutic properties and influences, than any of the other analogous compounds of these elements, therefore it is principally best adapted to the treatment of the numerous derangements and modifications of the economy requiring such principles and influences.

X. That this agent, nitrous oxide, possesses peculiar compound and unique vital properties, in being permanently and universally excitant, not being followed by the subsequent sedation attending the action of other stimulants, and by additionally containing, and, in undergoing decomposition, yielding its special elements to the blood, thus inducing therein and promoting thereby the essential changes, productions and processes necessary to normal hæmatosis and the healthful performance of the functions of all the organs or parts, as well as of the whole body and the ultimate perfection of the organism.

XI. That by its compound and universal chemico-physiologic properties and influences, through its permanently arterial, nervous, cerebral and general stimulus and constitutional elements oxygen and nitrogen, the nitrous oxide or protoxide of nitrogen thus operates actively and efficiently as a tonic, antiperiodic, antispasmodic, anodyne and general nervine, alterative, general resolvent, deobstruent, æratosic, hæmatogenetic, antitoxicosic, antilithiasic, depurative, &c.; and in its more special or local tendencies as an antidyspnœtic, diuretic, aphrodisiac, &c. In fact, by supplying and inducing the aeratory elements and processes, and promoting the functions of all the organs and apparatuses both of the organic and animal life and of the general economy, it often speedily relieves or completely removes many of their particular derangements. Hence this agent is a remedy *sui generis*, and specifically applicable to the prevention, moderation and rectification of numerous abnormal aberrations and modifications of each and every part of the system, both functional and organic, and either in their separate or associate, simple or complex, or aggregate and general state.

XII. That hygienically and therapeutically the action of these analogous natural and artificial physical and chemical compounds of oxygen and nitrogen, is of an unique and specific character, being not only active and useful in the production and evolution of the mutations and materials essential to the normal *con*-structive, formative or ascending organic scale, but also in the *de*-structive, degenerative or descending scale of organization, while at the same time they additionally promote the more ultimate functions and operations of both vegetable and animal life in their special or separate and universal and aggregate relations. And hence by thus powerfully and peculiarly acting in strict accordance with the true hygienic and therapeutic principles, on all parts of the vital circle and economy at the same time, are totally different from and superior to all other agents in the prevention and correction of certain forms of local and general derangement and modification of the organism.

*Philadelphia, July 19th,* 1853.

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## IMPERFORATE ANUS.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

While residing in Frankfort, Maine, about three years since, I attended Mrs. W. in her first confinement. She was delivered of a large, apparently healthy, and well-developed male child, in which I could perceive no defect whatever. Twenty-four hours afterwards, was notified by the nurse that the child had passed neither urine nor fæces. On examination, it proved to be a case of imperforate anus, of a very unusual character. The rectum had terminated in a *cul de sac*, high up in the pelvis, and communicating with the bladder. There was not the slightest rudiment of an outlet to the gut, nor any mark to indicate where it should be. No distension of the integuments denoted a pressure of the fæces within. The genital organs were somewhat deformed. The testicles well developed, but there was a mere apology for a penis, with the urethra terminating near its root, just above the scrotum.

Having introduced a bent silver probe into the bladder, its removal was followed by a jet of urine and thin fæculent matter. The probe was also covered with meconium. In deciding upon an operation, I reasoned thus:—As it is uncertain how far it will be necessary to dissect in order to reach the rectum, the danger of wounding arteries beyond the reach of the ligature will be very great. Should it be necessary to carry the dissection any great distance, the patient will probably die in my hands. And then, should he survive the operation, the fact of the communication between the gut and the urinary organs, would render the ultimate success of the operation quite uncertain, to say nothing of the difficulty of preserving a proper opening. On the other hand, the child must die.

With the advice and assistance of Drs. Edmund and Charles Abbott, I made an incision through the skin and cellular membrane, from the extremity of the coccyx, along the perineum, about two and a half inches. No muscular fibres were divided. Dissected carefully up the natural course of the bowel about one and a half inch, where the rectum presented

itself; terminating in a *cul de sac* and enormously distended with fæces. This was freely laid open, and a copious evacuation ensued, giving entire relief to the little sufferer. No blood-vessel requiring ligature was wounded. The divided parts were kept from adhering together, at first by tents well oiled, and afterwards by a tube with a button on the end, which was made to order. Much trouble was at first experienced in retaining the tube, as its introduction would produce violent straining and evacuation, but the parts, after a while, became accustomed to the irritation. In a few weeks the parts were entirely healed, and an artificial anus established, to all appearance as good as natural. Fortunately, after the operation, no fæces ever appeared in the urine, nor was there any reason to believe that the urine ever passed into the rectum.

The child, at the age of one year, was remarkably large and vigorous. The family removed from the place, and I have not heard from the child since. As the sphincter muscle is wanting, he must necessarily experience some inconvenience on that account. It is a circumstance worthy of remark that this patient, scarcely twenty-four hours old, never cried during the operation, thus putting to shame those robust persons, of mature age, who cannot bear the extraction of a tooth without the use of ether.

If you deem the above case of sufficient importance to deserve a place in your Journal, I may, as I have leisure, send you, from my note-book, others which are somewhat out of the common course.

*South Deerfield, Aug.* 23, 1853. NOAH GILMAN, M.D.

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## QUACKERY.

*To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

SIR,—My attention has at this time been particularly called to the subject of quackery, from noticing in our daily papers the announcement of a physician from Philadelphia, of some considerable eminence, now occupying rooms at one of our hotels, who holds forth to the public in an advertisement, which I give below, his special skill in the cure of one branch of the "ills to which flesh is heir," with the names and testimony of several distinguished men of the profession attached.

[The writer here gives the advertisement. It is headed "Important to the Deaf," and is in the name of Dr. Hartley, proprietor of an Ear Infirmary in Philadelphia. "Testimonials" are appended from Professors Willard Parker, Valentine Mott and John H. Whitaker, of New York. It seems hardly worth while to transfer it to our pages.—ED.]

It appears to me that Dr. Hartley, in travelling from place to place, and publishing in the public prints, wherever he may make a stand, his superior *skill and experience*, notwithstanding it is confined to a particular disease, should meet the disapprobation of the entire medical profession. For a few years past the profession has seemed to manifest some increased interest in devising means to rid the people of the scourge of unprincipled quacks, and to this end many methods have been proposed, each possessing within itself some degree of efficiency, and all going to show at least the good will and wish of the proposers; but so long as "itinerant doc-

tors" are countenanced by medical men, and sustained in their advertisements by the names of such physicians as W. Parker, John H. Whitaker, and Valentine Mott, gazetted broadcast in every city which they visit, no progress can be made in this department of reform, but retrogradation must be the result. Public advertising and pleasing promises, *guaranteeing a speedy and permanent cure without causing the least pain or inconvenience*, and assuring the public that they have devoted many years of "close and almost undivided attention" to this branch of medical study and research, so that "the most confirmed and obstinate cases yield" readily to their mode of treatment, is the common custom of quacks and empirics; and although Dr. Hartley may possess "professional ability," and be a "gentleman of correct deportment," it does not warrant him in using the implements of the notorious charlatan, by setting forth to the people his qualifications, and the "better means" which he possesses "of coping with this serious affliction, than those which are possessed by physicians in general practice." By so doing he takes the ground of the ignorant and dishonest quack, and the uninformed members of the community, not being able to distinguish between them, will not be slow in allotting to him the honor of coequal. Thus he gives strength and countenance to all irregular practitioners, the Indian doctor, the eclectic, analytic, botanic, reformed, &c.; for he resorts to the same or similar means to gain notoriety and obtain patronage; and, worse than this, he places himself on a level with the least of all meritorious mountebanks of the day—the "travelling doctors." True, Dr. H. has the right to visit his patients in Portland or elsewhere; but if his only intention was to comply with the "special request" of "those patients with whom he has been in communication," there was no necessity or even a call for such a sweeping notice to the public of his *skill* and *success*, fortified by "testimonials" from "the most distinguished medical men of the country," for those of his patients must be aware what his treatment in some measure is, and, what to them is most important, what his success has been in their individual cases, and if it has been favorable, they are just as well satisfied of his skill, as though it was confirmed by the testimony of thousands. No physician, however well educated he may be, however great his skill, or extensive his experience, can guarantee with impunity a cure in "all cases where malformation does not exist," in any *serious affliction* of the human system whatever; and how Dr. H. can do so in this difficult branch of the medical profession, is more than I can understand.

If he claims to himself all the honor and dignity of the profession, and has made any new discovery in the treatment of any disease, he is in duty bound to give it to the profession, and is morally culpable if he keeps it a secret; but if he has made no such discovery, he knows, as every other intelligent physician knows, that he can warrant no cure with certainty, and it is against the honor and dignity of the profession to make such a promise to patients laboring under any disease, however mild or formidable its type may be.

I cannot conceive what reasons could have been adduced potent enough to influence Drs. Parker, Whitaker and Mott to allow their names

to be used in the manner Dr. Hartley has made use of them in the advertisement alluded to, and I am tardy in believing that they were given to those testimonials with the knowledge and expectation of their being attached to the advertisement of an "itinerant physician," to be published in the papers of our cities and towns to the gaze of the gaping multitude, and immediately followed up in *propria persona* to reap the result. We have learned to look up to those gentlemen as fathers of the medical profession, and as examples worthy to be imitated; but we have been taught that an unmeritorious act committed by the great is not less amenable to censure than if committed by the small; and when such personages do things that we in humble life would not feel justified in doing, we must acknowledge that the spirit of blame and rebuke arises in our heart. If intelligent physicians wish the empire of quackery to fall, let them live it down. Let them not aid or abet in any degree to sustain its strong holds, or give any semblance of countenance that will extend or make more respectable its career. Let them avoid every appearance of evil, and tolerate in no way, either by word, thought or deed, even a show of empiricism. Let them mark out to themselves an independent, straight-forward course, and follow it before the people in their professional dealings with them, without swerving to either side for aggrandizement or gain. Let them use their exertions to enlighten the minds of the people upon this species of deception and humbug, which pretending and unprincipled quacks are practising upon them. Let them strive to educate the credulous public in every possible way, that it may understand and duly appreciate the difference between the practice of the judicious, thoroughly-educated medical man, and that of the disgusting, self-styled doctor, who is a disgrace in any community. When this is done, the next quarter of a century will show a large decrease in the boasting "*pathys*" and "*isms*" that are now so prevalent among us; and the croaking illiterate quack, the nostrum-maker, and nostrum-vender, will be compelled to seek other and perhaps more laudable means of support. J. F. D.

*Portland, Me., Aug. 6th*, 1853.

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## TREATMENT OF SPINAL CURVATURE.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

It has been well remarked that "generalization is too often pushed to an extreme, in medicine as well as in other sciences. A few years ago, whatever might be the real nature of the disease, it was the fashion to treat all distortions of the spine by repose, and few schools or private families were unfurnished with an inclined plane." This practice arose from the mistaken generalization, that all spinal distortions were dependent on softness, or disease of the bones. Without a correct diagnosis, we can never apply our remedies on anything like scientific principle. A fair prognosis must also depend upon a correct diagnosis, which requires great care in distinguishing the true nature of the cause, and the extent to which it has operated on the spine.

A strictly scientific practice embraces, as its indispensable requisite, a system of correct diagnosis. It is easy to guess, in any case, what the disease is, and it is possible now and then to guess right; but this is not science. Should we generalize upon our happy hits, and establish a rule for all cases, we should inevitably fail in the major number. "Without *knowing* the disease," says the eminent Forbes, "we must be totally incompetent to treat it." This applies as well to spinal and other deformities as to any other form of disease.

Is it not too often the case that practitioners make use of a slip-shod method in obtaining the diagnosis of a case? It certainly is a laborious task, and very likely to be neglected by one of easy routine or indolent habits. I have known a leg to be blistered and cauterized very heroically, under the supposition that the disease was there, when it was in the spine, and might have been easily discovered had the vertebræ been pressed upon, or even a sponge of warm water run over them. So I have known a person to be doctored for months for supposed indigestion and hepatic affection, when all the symptoms arose from spinal disorder reflecting its influence upon the intercostal muscles of the right side, and the abdominal muscles.

To avoid such mistakes it is necessary to resort to careful external manipulation, especially in doubtful cases. Dr. Forbes, in his preface to the translation of Laennec, urges the same course upon the younger part of the profession, and shows the importance of examining the external parts of the body, in cases even of internal disease, giving as a reason for this, that he "had known plain and obvious diseases mistaken and mistreated, for months, even years—merely from the practitioner's neglecting this simple but *necessary* measure." Again he remarks—"From the neglect of this precaution, I have known peritonitis and enteritis mistaken for simple colic; disease of the heart for disease of the stomach; and *derangements depending on curvature of the spine, treated years* as a mere nervous affection, and in other cases as organic disease of the heart, lungs and diaphragm!"

It is not to be doubted that if a scientific treatment of disease depends upon a correct system of diagnosis, neither can obtain while an exclusive *a priori* theory is rigidly adhered to, as the latter precludes the possibility of rightly observing those facts which are necessary to a legitimate deduction. The basis of medical science is the same as that of every other department of nature. It depends upon a thorough and impartial observance of phenomena, their rigid analysis and proper classification. No system of physics is entitled to the name of science, that takes every other course but this, or makes this its *exceptional rule* of procedure.

The history of the treatment of spinal curvatures is, like many other departments of medicine, exceedingly curious, as showing the unscientific tendency to generalize in theory, to the exclusion of related facts; and to found upon it a system of treatment wholly inadequate to the demands of the major proportion of cases.

As an example, the celebrated Pott attributed spinal deformity to caries of the vertebræ and intervertebral substance; and many of those

symptoms he lays down as attributable to this affection, and to be observed in the diagnosis, the most constant and striking of them, says Copland, "do and must necessarily exist long before any curvature or caries has taken place." The fact that caries without curvature, and curvature without caries, have been demonstrated in numberless instances, has overthrown the theory of Pott, notwithstanding the influence of his great name. Nay, he even says himself, in one place, that he "found cases of curvature without any apparent affections of the bones," and allows that some dissections proved "that the vertebral bones are not always enlarged or otherwise disordered, even when they are accompanied with a greater or less degree of deformity." And he mentions some marked cases of posterior, anterior and lateral curvatures, where "the vertebral bones and cartilages show no other signs of disease than such as arise from unequal pressure, being hard, firm, sound, and when free from pressure are of the natural size"; that "they were unnecessarily separated in some parts of the external curve, yet having nothing of ulceration about them."

Yet this great man in his *treatment* excluded these facts in forming his diagnosis and the subsequent treatment. All cases were treated as inflammation, ulceration or caries of vertebræ and cartilage; and all that could be effected was to check the progress of destruction, and to establish anchylosis. The patient was confined in the horizontal posture, and caustics applied along the spine. If the cause happened to be inflammation, or caries of the vertebræ or connected parts, the object of the caustic issues in most instances would be effected. If the cause were something else, as a derangement of the muscular forces, then the treatment was the most wretched thing possible for the patient. As caries would be found in a great minority of cases, the great majority would be ill treated. With the famous Pott and the surgeons of his time who followed him, this may be excusable; but hardly with practitioners of the present age.

Professor Rush took stand against Mr. Pott's theory, so far as concerned the treatment. "Numerous observations and long experience proved to him," he said, "that issues rarely produced the desired effect, and that they even frequently accelerated the progress of the disease in the latter stage."

This might be expected in all those cases of spinal curvature resulting simply from a derangement of forces, not from destruction of substance.

Dr. Armstrong, also, and Mr. Boynton, together with numerous other physicians and surgeons of eminence, have opposed the use of caustics. And yet Camper, Beale, Brodie, Copeland, and numerous others, have found this to be of eminent use in many cases.

It may well be asked—"Under this variation and opposition of respectable testimony, where shall the practitioner place his reliance? How shall he direct his practice?"

Again, Glisson, one of the earlier modern writers on this subject, maintained that spinal distortion arose from the unequal nourishment of the bones, those on the one side growing faster than those on the other

—that the vertebræ on one side were over-supplied, which threw the spine out of its normal line. Upon this he instituted an exclusive system of practice, which was successful in a class of cases, injurious in others.

Mayo, who seems to have devoted considerable attention to the subject, attributed the cause of curvatures to a derangement of the muscular forces, the muscles on one side acting more powerfully than those on the other. He instituted an exclusive method of practice, placing his patients on an inclined plane, on which they were to work the muscles. This being successful in a larger class of cases than either of the other methods, became a rage of fashion; but it was found very injurions in many cases, and was abandoned by those who were not reckless of human weal.

Harrison started with the theory that curvatures were the result of laceration and subluxation. He instituted an establishment favored by many of the dignitaries of England, and for a time even by the Queen. His success was very marked in some particular cases, which were selected and published in superb royal octavo form, illustrated with numerous very fine engravings.

The relaxation and extension of the ligaments of the spine, and the consequent partial displacement of the vertebræ, was the marked characteristic of Harrison's theory. He was laughed at, however, by some of the physicians for supposing that the vertebræ could be displaced in so large a number of cases, without paralysis; but M. Delpech details a very few cases, where slight subluxation was evident. One case, however, was sufficient for Mr. Harrison to found a theory and practice upon.

Delpech and Lafond instituted theories, in which the application of mechanical contrivances was resorted to, and instruments became the rage in France and Germany. Mr. Chepher, a practising surgeon in Hinkley, in England, also invented instruments for bracing the spine, which gained him great fame. He, however, published no theory. Thus instruments became the rage for curing all sorts of spinal deformities. So far was this carried, that the most complicated machinery was invented for stretching and twisting the spine, to bring it in shape; and the more complicated, the better pleased were both the surgeons and the people. A re-action soon followed. Too many became the victims of this barbarity. A host of enlightened surgeons arose, who made a general attack upon the instruments. Foremost was Mr. Shaw, also Mr. Bamfield; both of whom took more enlarged views of the subject. Afterwards Beale, Wilson, and others, advanced essentially the same principles with additional observations.

[To be continued.]

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## THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 7, 1853.

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*The American Journal of Science and Art.*—On the cover of the 47th No. of Vol. 16, of this Journal, published in New Haven, and long known under

the name of "Silliman's Journal," we notice that it has been strengthened by the additional aid of four more editors, making seven in all, to whose management its future destiny is confided. Were the Journal purely medical in its character and objects, two editors would be sufficient to prevent its growth and prosperity, while the mystic number of seven, unlike the success of the seven champions of christendom, could not fail to annihilate it. As it is, and with the talents and views of the gentlemen who have thus associated for the purpose of adapting its contents to every class of literary and scientific readers, we see no reason why they should fail of success. A new feature has been introduced, with especial reference to medical men, and the proprietors look to them with an earnest expectation of receiving their patronage. It is hereafter to comprise reviews and notices of anatomical and physiological works, together with abstracts of them, as we understand the plan; so that instead of being a dry-bone, marrowless series of mathematical papers, which not one in a hundred have an organization for comprehending, or would read if they had, something fitted to the every-day wants of physicians may be found in it. Were it not for the medical profession, two thirds of the scientific periodicals in the United States would cease to be published. Those on Natural History, and the various departments into which that great domain is sub-divided, owe much of their vitality and patronage to that source. It is characteristic of the medical practitioners throughout the Union, that they bestow much attention upon the different branches of natural science. They make up the learned societies, to a very considerable extent, write scientific articles for publication, and pay liberally for journals. With these facts for their encouragement, it was a wise movement in the controllers of the American Journal of Science and Art, to popularize it, in a measure; or, rather, to modify it, and adapt it to the general wants of that widely-spread class of the community. Each and every cultivated scientific taste is to be gratified with appropriate food under the new system. Thus the botanist, zoologist, geologist and physiologist, are each to be catered for appropriately. This is a brief synopsis of what is proposed; and to show our good will towards the enterprise, we strongly urge upon the medical brotherhood everywhere, to assist liberally with their purses in nourishing and sustaining an ably conducted work. It is published the first day of every other month, at five dollars a year. Names of subscribers may be sent to this office, and they will be cheerfully forwarded to the publishers.

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*Shaker Herbs.*—Throughout New England, as well as in other States of the Union, immense quantities of indigenous medicinal plants are on sale, in convenient forms, prepared by those conscientious, reliable people, known as Shakers. They have taken possession of the market, in that respect, because, by long practice and faithfulness in the business of putting up articles considered essential in the materia medica, they have no competitors of equal renown. In order to be able to speak understandingly in regard to the character of their medicines, we made a special visit to the Society at Harvard, Mass., week before last. We inspected their gardens, examined the various plants and the establishment in which they are packed, and inquired into the processes and manipulations pursued by the fraternity in this particular branch of industry. It is quite unnecessary to enter into a description of the complex machinery used in pressing leaves or roots into compact cakes. On the floors of large airy apartments the fresh plants are carefully culled over, so that every unsuitable fibre, leaf or stem is rejected. Order

is a marked trait in the character of the Shakers. There is an exact place for every thing. No mistakes occur in the packing-room, because one kind of medicine is done up, labelled and packed away, before another is taken in hand. A constant vigilance is necessary to prevent the masses of medicinal herbs brought into the building from being impaired, either by light, moisture or other deteriorating causes. The same may be said of their extracts, essences, essential oils, &c. The system pursued at Harvard, is practised also at Canterbury and Enfield, N. H., at New Lebanon, N. Y., and in all the Shaker societies where herbs are raised and sold. With the knowledge thus acquired on the spot, in reference to this subject, we are prepared to encourage druggists and apothecaries throughout the country, to give their articles a preference over those from other sources, unless it can be ascertained, beyond a doubt, that equal pains are taken in the culture, selection and modes of securing the medicinal properties of plants. With medical practitioners it is all-important to be certain that they really administer what they wish to prescribe; otherwise, the most skilful efforts to control disease are useless. Under the humble term of Shaker Herbs, the very best remedies in the vegetable kingdom are distributed extensively over the United States, and they deserve to be equally well patronized in Europe.

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*Starling Medical College.*—This College is located at Columbus, the capital of Ohio, and its prospects are flattering. Since the termination of the last course of lectures, improvements in the cabinets and apartments, and in the facilities for instruction, have been made throughout. Gentlemen of high intellectual and scientific attainments compose the board of faculty.

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*Principles of Medical Delusion.*—Dr. Nutting's essay, taken from the pages of this Journal, has become a neatly printed pamphlet of thirty-six octavo pages. For circulation among the people it is in a convenient form. If it were thus distributed, the effect would doubtless be in many cases to open the eyes of those who have been duped not only out of their money, but their health also. One of the excellences of this production, is its plain, unvarnished, but truthful exposition of the trickery of medical pretenders. There is neither exaggeration, nor an attempt to excite the imagination of a non-professional reader. No pretensions to originality are made by the author, and this he frankly states. Availing himself of the facts strewn broadcast over the world, illustrative of the multiplied phases and protean forms that quackery assumes, his province has simply been to explain and expose them. By reference to an advertisement, it will be seen that copies may be obtained at a cheap rate.

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*The Microscopist.*—Messrs. Lindsay & Blakiston have brought out a second edition of that most useful little volume—which was so favorably received at the time of its first appearance,—called "The Microscopist, or a complete Manual on the use of the Microscope, for physicians and students, and all lovers of natural science." The second edition is improved and enlarged, with illustrations, by Joseph H. Wythes, and we heartily recommend this unpretending, but unrivalled guide in the management of a beautiful and wonderful instrument. The field for observation can never be exhausted, nor the philosopher cease to admire the marvellous skill of a Divine Power in the revelations made by the microscope. As the telescope

reveals worlds on worlds which no unassisted eye could have discovered, so the microscope exhibits organic life in atoms which must be multiplied a thousand times beyond their actual dimensions to be discerned by human vision. The latter are no less wonderful than the former, and are calculated to impress the mind with the majesty, wisdom and omnipotence of God. Among students, whether medical or academical, the sights to be seen with a microscope may develope an ardent love for research and investigation. But order is a law of heaven, and without it, in philosophical inquiries, no satisfactory progress is ever accomplished. By the assistance of Dr. Wythes's book, the subject is made easy, and therefore it should be placed in seminaries of learning. Medical students cannot well dispense with the work, if they expect to keep pace with the knowledge revealed by the microscope. Copies are on sale at Ticknor & Co.'s, Boston.

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*Maternal Management of Children.*—On the first examination of this new volume, by Thomas Bull, M.D., we hesitated whether it properly belonged to the library of the physician or to mothers in general. A second edition, in 12mo, 424 pages, also from the enterprising publishing house of Lindsay & Blakiston, Philadelphia, has been published, and contains many good things. Were medical practitioners to recommend each and every new mother to procure a copy, they would be instrumental in teaching them their duties.

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*Operative Ophthalmic Surgery.*—This is no every-day publication. The directions which are given in it, will be appreciated by the profession everywhere. Familiar as professed oculists may be with the various conditions to which the eye is incident, every contribution to the common stock of practical knowledge on the subject, from proper sources, is gladly received. The work before us is a handsome octavo, containing 599 pages, from the press of Messrs. Lindsay & Blakiston, Philadelphia, and bears the following title—"A Treatise on Operative Ophthalmic Surgery, by H. Haynes Walton, &c., first American, from the first London edition, illustrated by one hundred and sixty-nine engravings on wood; edited by S. Littell, M.D., &c., Surgeon of Wills Hospital." "The want of a treatise on operative ophthalmic surgery, written in the light of modern science, insures for the work of Mr. Walton a favorable reception, which its intrinsic merits will abundantly justify," says Dr. Littell. Such will be the opinion of every one who becomes acquainted with the character of the work. There are twenty-one chapters, which embrace all that has been collected from trustworthy sources. It is not a mere book of recipes, or a compilation of cases. On the contrary, principles are expounded, comments are made on the results of various operations, and the most safe and judicious course proposed, based on the long experience of the first class of authorities. It is for the professed ophthalmic surgeon, what Mr. Little's orthopædic surgery is acknowledged to be with respect to operations on distorted limbs,—the best book of the day. To be had, also, at Ticknor & Co.'s, in Boston.

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*Treatment of Diseases of the Lungs.*—The knife has been used fearlessly upon the human body everywhere but in the thorax. By-and-by it may be used more freely in that region, and perhaps the happy discovery made that a portion of ulcerated lung can be excised with good results. No m-

tisfactory experiments have been instituted on animals to ascertain what may or may not be accomplished, in the way of detaching portions of those organs. The immense sacrifice of life by pulmonary consumption, calls imperiously for more activity in the pursuit of means for staying its progress. There are instances of spontaneous recovery from a hopeless condition, with the loss of one lung. If we could imitate nature, and remove the diseased part, as she endeavors to do by copious expectoration, the advantage might be inestimable to the human race. If nothing is undertaken beyond medication of the whole system, which exerts but a remote influence on a suffering lobe, physicians might as well acknowledge their inability to cope with the disease. Within the last few years, we have directed the attention of our medical friends to the consideration of this subject, always hoping that some one may have the moral firmness to make the attempt. By a variety of accidents the thorax is penetrated, and even the lung protruded, without fatal results. Enormous quantities of fluid are sometimes secreted in the cavity, and discharged with impunity, which are so many indications of what may at least be attempted. A series of experiments are needed to settle the question, which will continue to be agitated till the problem is solved, viz., can a part or the whole of an ulcerated lung be removed, with a prospect of saving the patient?

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*Surgical Cutlery.*—What success have American artizans in the manufacture of surgical instruments of late? Very little has been heard of them for a year or two, which is sufficient apology for making the inquiry. English, French and German surgical cutlery predominates in the shops and warehouses, not to the exclusion of home-made articles, but because they are afforded cheaper. Labor is so expensive here that first-class instruments would be considered as costing too much. It should be a matter of principle with the profession to encourage native workmen; otherwise we shall always be dependent on foreign manufacturers. We should be gratified to see some specimens of cases and single instruments, as they are now made in New York, Boston and Philadelphia, for the purpose of keeping up with the times in that respect.

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*Perpetual Thirst.*—Some years ago we gave a detailed account of the condition and appearance of a man who was then supposed to be the greatest drinker among men in America, if not on the globe. He is yet living, in excellent health, at the age of 58 years, and still remains in a state of perpetual thirst. The individual alluded to, is Mr. James Webb, of Fairhaven, Mass. Under every aspect in which the case may be examined, it is remarkable and perhaps unparalleled in the annals of physiology. In early infancy the quantity of water he consumed was so large as to astonish those who witnessed it. A development in size and weight of the body required a corresponding increase in the quantity of his aquatic potations. Under ordinary circumstances, three gallons of water is rather a short daily allowance for him, and it would be impossible, it seems, for him to live through a night with less than a pailful. With this immense amount of cold water daily poured into the stomach, Mr. Webb has been in good health and spirits. We leave the statement of these curious facts, unembarrassed by comment, and simply ask of learned editorial friends the probable cause of this unsatisfied thirst.

*Yellow Fever in New Orleans.*—We have not considered it necessary to keep our readers informed of the daily number of deaths from the present epidemic in New Orleans. That its fatality has been great—exceeding that of all former visitations of the fever in that ill-fated city—all our readers have learned from the newspapers of the day. The early period of the season at which it commenced, its malignant character, and the fears that no abatement of its virulence could reasonably be expected till the occurrence of the autumnal frosts, have conspired to impart additional horrors to the fearful scourge. We are happy in learning, however, at the latest dates, that an improvement has taken place, and that the number of deaths is gradually diminishing from the large sum of over 200 a day. The great distress which must follow in the train of such a pestilence has claims upon the sympathies and aid of the community, and we are glad to see that these have been rendered from all parts of the country. The names of several physicians have been reported among the victims of the fever, but not a larger number of them than might be expected considering the immensity of the labors which must have devolved upon them, and the fact that they could not, like other classes of the community, flee from the pestilence which has been destroying its thousands around them.

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*Trouble amang the Cincinnati Physicians.*—It appears by the public papers that some unpleasant proceedings have been taking place among several of the faculty in the Queen City of the West. They occurred at a meeting of 73 of the physicians of the city, called for the purpose of considering the affairs of the Commercial Hospital and the Lunatic Asylum of that city, which are under the control of the Ohio Medical College. The College is charged with mismanagement in conducting these affairs; though we do not learn, from the reports, how it is considered answerable for the crowded state of the institutions, and the evils flowing therefrom, when the institutions themselves belong to the city. Dr. Wright, formerly connected with the College, seems to have presented the complaints against it, and in the course of his remarks read, from what purported to be the August number of the Western Lancet, part of the Annual Announcement of the Trustees, in which the present faculty of the College were praised at the expense of the former *heterogeneous materials* of which it was composed. This brought to the floor Prof. Thos. Wood, one of the new faculty and also one of the editors of the Lancet, who stated that the number of the Lancet which had been read from was surreptitiously obtained, the numbers as published not containing the objectionable passages. This gave rise to a dispute between the two gentlemen, which we are sorry to see was not confined to words—a personal rencontre being prevented only by those around them. It is hoped this disagreeable affair will be amicably settled, and that the regular physicians of that noble city will not waste their strength in warring among themselves, when it is all needed in united efforts against the many systems of quackery among them.

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*Inhumanity of Physicians.*—Specimens have been given, in some of the papers, of the unfeeling manner in which patients have been treated at New Orleans, in the midst of the present pestilence, by their medical attendants. If the vulgarity, profanity and want of sympathy imputed to some of them is true, they deserve the infamous notoriety that is likely to accompany them in after life. There is no apology for a physican being either ill-bred, ungentlemanly or unkind in this age of christian refinement and morality.

*Chloroform and its Antidote.*—Dr. Tobert de Lamballe, a distinguished physician of Paris, announces that a shock of electricity given to a patient dying from the effects of chloroform, inmediately counteracts its influence, and returns the sufferer to life.

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*Dr. Coale's Treatise on Uterine Displacements.*—This treatise, re-published from the pages of the Journal, seems to be more highly prized the more it is known. A physician in the vicinity of Boston states that he finds it advantageous to hand a copy of it to patients who are afflicted with this complaint, its directions in regard to dress being presented in a plain and convincing manner. The following notice is from the last number of the American Journal of Dental Science.

"This unpretending little pamphlet contains more really useful information on the subject of uterine displacements, than many larger and more pompous treatises. It is plain, practical and to the point. The examination of the causes of prolapsus is especially valuable, as pointing out a gross violation of hygienic rules in the present mode of dressing among our women. The physiological positions of our author are clearly stated and ably defended. No anatomist can fail to be convinced by them.

"To those who wish a practical text-book on this important class of diseases, we strongly recommend this little pamphlet of 52 pages."

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*On Elastic Collodion.* By M. E. Lauras.—The following formula, given in the *Repertoire de Pharmacie*, is said to produce a highly-elastic collodion:—

Sulphuric acid, of s. g. 1·847, 300 parts; very dry nitre, 200 parts. Mix together in a stone-ware or porcelain pot, and add of carded cotton 10 parts. Leave these substances in contact for 12 minutes; withdraw the cotton, wash it with cold water to remove the acid which it contains, and after two or three rinsings, immerse it in water containing 30 parts of subcarbonate of potass in 1000 of water; plunge it again into ordinary water, agitate well, and dry at a temperature of 77 to 86 deg. The cotton, thus prepared, takes the name of xyloidine, and may afterwards be mixed with the ether and the other substances which form it into elastic collodion.

*Elastic Collodion.*—Xyloidine, 8 parts; ordinary sulphuric ether, 125 parts. Place in a wide-mouthed flask, and add 8 parts of alcohol of s. g. ·825. Agitate, and then make a mixture of Venice turpentine, 2 parts; castor oil, 2 parts; white wax, 2 parts; sulphuric ether, 6 parts. Heat together the first three substances, add the ether, and combine the two mixtures.—*Pharm. Journal.*

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Married,—In Westfield, N. Y., on the 25th ult., John T. Fleming, M.D., of Flemingsburg, Fleming County, Ky., to Miss Adeline E. Budlong, of Westfield.

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Died,—At Holly Wand, Alabama, Dr. W. R. Northall, late of New York.

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*Deaths in Boston* for the week ending Saturday noon, Sept. 3d, 87. Males, 49—females, 38. Accidents, 2—disease of the bowels, 5—inflammation of the brain, 1—congestion of the brain, 1—consumption, 12—cholera infantum, 9—cholera morbus, 4—croup, 1—dysentery, 5—diarrhœa, 2—dropsy, 2—dropsy in the head, 1—debility, 2—infantile diseases, 7—puerperal, 1—fever, 1—typhoid fever, 1—scarlet fever, 1—gravel, 1—hooping cough, 1—homicide, 1—disease of the heart, 7—inflammation of the lungs, 3—marasmus, 1—measles, 5—old age, 2—palsy, 1—disease of the stomach, 1—teething, 11—unknown, 1.

Under 5 years, 50——between 5 and 20 years, 7—between 20 and 40 years, 11—between 40 and 60 years, 8—above 60 years, 11. Born in the United States, 64—Ireland, 17—England, 3—British Provinces, 1—Scotland, 1—Germany, 1.

BOYLSTON MEDICAL PRIZE QUESTIONS.—The Boylston Medical Committee, appointed by the President and Fellows of Harvard University, consists of the following Physicians:

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| JOHN C. WARREN, M.D. | J. B. S. JACKSON, M.D. |
| W. CHANNING, M.D. | D. H. STORER, M.D. |
| EDW. REYNOLDS, M.D. | J. M. WARREN, M.D. |
| JOHN JEFFRIES, M.D. | CHAS. C. PUTNAM, M.D. |

SOLOMON D. TOWNSEND, M.D.

At the annual meeting of the Committee, Aug. 3, 1853, no premium was awarded on either of the two subjects offered.

THE QUESTIONS FOR 1854 ARE

1. On the constitutional treatment of Syphilis.
2. On the now malignant diseases of the Uterus.

Dissertations on these subjects must be transmitted, post paid, to JOHN C. WARREN, M.D., on or before the *First Wednesday of April*, 1854.

The following subject is offered for the year 1855: "On the Diagnosis of the Diseases of the Urinary Organs."

Dissertations on this subject must be transmitted as above on or before the *First Wednesday of August*, 1855.

The author of the best Dissertation, considered worthy of a premium, on either of the two subjects offered for 1854, will be entitled to a premium of Sixty Dollars, or a Gold Medal of that value, at his option.

The author of the Dissertation for which a prize is adjudged on the subject offered for 1855, will be entitled to a premium of One Hundred and Twenty Dollars, or a Gold Medal of that value, at his option.

Each Dissertation must be accompanied by a sealed packet, on which shall be written some device or sentence, and within shall be enclosed the author's name and residence. The same device or sentence is to be written on the Dissertation to which the packet is attached.

All unsuccessful Dissertations are deposited with the Secretary, from whom they may be obtained, with the sealed packet unopened, if called for within one year after they have been received.

By an order adopted in 1826, the Secretary was directed to publish annually the following votes:

1st. That the Board do not consider themselves as approving the doctrines contained in any of the Dissertations to which premiums may be adjudged.

2d. That in case of publication of a successful Dissertation, the author be considered as bound to print the above vote in connection therewith.

JOHN JEFFRIES, *Secr'y.*

Boston, Aug. 11, 1853. s7—6t

GENEVA MEDICAL COLLEGE—*Fall Course.*—The next Annual Course of Lectures in this Institution will commence on the second Wednesday [14th] of September, 1853, and continue sixteen weeks.

*Faculty.*

CHARLES B. COVENTRY, M.D., Prof. of Obstetrics and Medical Jurisprudence.

JAMES WEBSTER, M.D., Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.

CHARLES A. LEE, M.D., Prof. of Materia Medica and General Pathology.

JAMES BRYAN, M.D., Prof. of the Principles and Practice of Surgery.

WILLIAM SWEETSER, M.D., Prof. of the Theory and Practice of Medicine.

GEORGE HADLEY, M.D., Prof of Chemistry.

CHARLES A. P. BOWEN, M.D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.

Fees for the whole Course, $62. Matriculation fee, $3. Graduation fee, $20.

Board from $2 00 to $2 50 per week.

An abundance of anatomical material has always been furnished at this Institution, and may be depended on hereafter.

The Surgical and Medical Clinique is extensive, and well supplied with interesting cases.

Further information obtained by addressing

GEORGE HADLEY, M.D.,

June 15—tS14. *Geneva, N. Y.*

SOMETHING NEW.—A Physician, enjoying a lucrative practice, within thirty minutes ride by railroad from Washington, D. C., will dispose of his business to any New England practitioner *if applied for immediately.* A Northern physician of fair standing would be *sure* of $1600, good business, per year (as he would be the only physician in a settlement of about 2000 Northern people), with a rare opportunity to increase it to $2500. Terms $150.—For further particulars, address G. F. Chamberlin, M.D., Fairfax Court House, Va.

Aug. 31—3t

DR. HAMILTON'S FRACTURE TABLES—For sale at this Office, also at Phinney & Co.'s, Buffalo, N. Y.—Price, for a single copy, 37 1-2 cts.; four or more copies, 25 cts. each. aug 10—3m

MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY.—A Stated Meeting of the Counsellors of the Massachusetts Medical Society will be held at the Room of the Suffolk District Medical Society, Phillips Place, opposite the Stone Chapel, Tremont street, Boston, on Wednesday, Oct. 5th, at 11 o'clock, A.M.

CHAS. E. WARE, *Rec. Sec.*

Boston, Sept. 5, 1853. s7—tm

PHILBRICK, ATWOOD & CO.—Manufacturers and dealers in Chemicals and Pharmaceutical Preparations, 160 Washington street, Boston.

S. R. PHILBRICK,
LUTHER ATWOOD,
WM. ATWOOD. } Sept. 7

SYRUP IODIDE OF IRON—Manufactured and sold by PHILBRICK, ATWOOD & CO., Chemists, 160 Washington st., Boston. sep. 7

PURE FUSEL OIL—Manufactured and sold by PHILBRICK, ATWOOD & CO., Chemists, 160 Washington street, Boston. sep. 7

FOR SALE.—The subscriber having removed to his new store will dispose of the entire Apothecary Furniture of the former store, on very reasonable terms.

J. T. BROWN,
292 Washington cor. Bedford st., Boston.

Aug. 31—3t

DR. H. W. WILLIAMS has removed to No. 33 ESSEX STREET, opposite Rowe Street.

Particular attention given to DISEASES OF THE EYE. Nov. 5.—eptf

CASTLETON MEDICAL COLLEGE.—There will be annually *two* full Courses of Lectures in this Institution; the *Spring Session* commencing on the last Thursday in February, the *Autumnal Session* commencing on the first Thursday in August. Each course will continue four months, under the direction of the following faculty.

JOSEPH PERKINS, M.D., Prof. of Materia Medica and Obstetrics.

EZRA S. CARR, M.D., Prof. of Chemistry, and Natural History.

WILLIAM SWEETSER, M.D., Prof. of Theory and Practice of Medicine.

MIDDLETON GOLDSMITH, M.D., Prof. of Surgery.

WILLIAM C. KITTRIDGE, A.M., Prof. of Medical Jurisprudence.

CORYDON LA FORD, M.D., Prof. of Anatomy and Physiology.

ADRIAN T. WOODWARD, M.D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.

*Fees.*—For each full Course of Lectures, $50. For those who have attended two full Courses at other Medical Colleges, $10. Matriculation, $5. Graduation, $16. Board, including the expenses of room, fuel and lights, can be obtained in respectable houses at from $1,75 to $2,50 per week.

Castleton is accessible from Albany, via White Hall, and from Boston and Burlington via Rutland, by Railroads. E. S. CARR, M.D., *Registrar.*

*Castleton, Vt., June* 1, 1853. jy6—ewtA eowtf

NEW HAVEN MEDICAL SCHOOL FOR PRIVATE INSTRUCTION.—The first term will commence the first week in March, and close the last of July The second will correspond with the Lecture Term of the Medical Institution of Yale College, beginning the last week in September and continuing four months.

JONATHAN KNIGHT, M.D., *President.*
S. G. HUBBARD, M.D., *Treasurer.*
W. HOOKER, M.D., *Sec'ry.*

INSTRUCTERS.

JONATHAN KNIGHT, M D., Institutes of Surgery.
CHAS. HOOKER, M.D., Anatomy and Physiology.
HENRY BRONSON, M.D., Materia Medica.
NATHAN B. IVES, M.D., Midwifery and Diseases of Females.
WORTHINGTON HOOKER, M.D., Theory and Practice of Medicine and Diseases of Children.
PLINY A. JEWETT, M.D., Surgery.
STEPHEN G. HUBBARD, M.D., Pathology and Medical Jurisprudence.

*Fees—to be paid in advance*—For the Summer Term, $40; Winter Term, $10; for the Year, $50.

*New Haven, Feb.* 25, 1853. mch 2—eow

ESSAY ON MEDICAL DELUSIONS.—"An Essay on some of the Principles of Medical Delusion." By J. H. Nutting, M.D., Stafford Spa, Ct. Reprinted, in a pamphlet of 36 octavo pages, from the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, and for sale at this office. Single copies, 10 cents; three copies for 25 cents; seven copies for 50 cents; and sixteen copies for $1. Orders by mail promptly attended to. Aug. 31